

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraphs [0038] and [0039] with the following amended paragraphs:

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① --[0038] As depicted in **Fig. 5**, the above-described length (T) is defined as a first distance between a first critical point between second inclined plate portion 24a and between a first inner surface 211 of first flat portion 21a of one waving strip 25a and a second critical point between first inner surface 211 of first flat portion 21b and first inclined plate portion 22b of the other adjacent waving strip 25b, and a second distance between a third critical point between first inclined plate portion 22a and a second inner surface 212 of second flat portion 23a of one waving strip 25a and a fourth critical point between second inner surface 212 of second flat portion 23b and second inclined plate portion 24b of the other adjacent waving strip 25b. **Fig. 5** depicts a case that the length (T) is equal to the thickness (t). In the structure depicted in **Fig. 5**, an arbitrary bend (R) is provided to the respective corners of first flat portions 21a and 21b and second flat portions 23a, 23b.

[0039] Because the above-described length (T) is less than or equal to the plate thickness (t) of waving strip 25, regarding the connecting portions between first flat portions 21 and between second flat portions 23, the lower limit of the length (T) inevitably approaches zero. Specifically, as depicted in **Fig. 6**, when length (T) approaches its minimum value (e.g., zero), a first critical point between second inclined plate portion 24a and a first inner surface 211 of first flat portion 21a of one waving strip 25a and a second critical point between first inner surface 211 of first flat portion 21b and first inclined plate portion 22b of the other adjacent waving strip 25b are positioned at a substantially identical position in the longitudinal direction of the waving strips, and a third critical point between first inclined plate portion 22a and a second inner surface 212 of second flat portion 23a of one waving strip 25a and a fourth critical point between second inner surface 212 of second flat portion 23b and second inclined plate portion 24b of the other adjacent waving strip 25b are positioned at a substantially identical position in the longitudinal direction of the waving strips.--

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